

Together, we can save a life

Southeast Service Area 950 22nd Street North Birmingham, AL 35203

NEWS RELEASE

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INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS EVACUATING TO A RED CROSS SHELTER

American Red Cross shelters are a short term place for residents to go to escape the immediate effects of a hurricane. Shelters with cots and other long term supplies are not available when these evacuation shelters are first opened. Long term shelters are addressed after the storm has passed.

In order for residents to be as comfortable as possible in a difficult situation, persons evacuating to one of the pre-hurricane shelters should bring the following supplies with them:

| Bedding (cot, lounge chairs, blankets, pillows) |
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| Food (non-cooking, non-refrigerated, 2 day supply) |
| Beverages (non-alcoholic) |
| Cooler with ice |
| Medication |
| Baby supplies |
| Changes of clothing |
| Entertainment items (board games, deck of cards, reading materials) |
| Copies of important papers |
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Persons sheltering should have two to four days of these items with them.

After the storm, the American Red Cross will serve meals to residents who might be unable to return to their homes. Volunteers across the Southeast and beyond are preparing to meet the needs of those who are affected by the storm. Shelters will remain open until residents are able to return to their homes or make arrangements for other suitable living arrangements.

All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. You can help the victims of [this disaster] and thousands of other disasters across the country each year by making a financial gift to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, which enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to those in need. Call 1-800-HELP NOW or 1-800-257-7575 (Spanish). Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may be sent to your local American Red Cross chapter or to the American Red Cross, P. O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013. Internet users can make a secure online contribution by visiting www.redcross.org.